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Introduction:

Many of this study is taken from my sermons on the twelve Apostles that I have given thru my years as a Pastor and a teacher in the web. As we dive into the life and ministry of the twelve disciples, we will first in this introduction look at the list of the twelve as found in 3 of the Gospels which are Mathew , Mark, Luke and the Book of Acts and compare the list. Then we will in the next chapter look at Jesus

calling of the twelve followed by the life and ministry of each disciple.

(Matthew 10:1-4) And when He had called His twelve disciples to Him, He gave them power over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease. Now the names of the twelve apostles are these: first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Lebbaeus, whose surname was Thaddaeus; Simon the Canaanite, and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed Him. (NKJV)

(Mark 3:14-19) Then He appointed twelve, that they might be with Him and that He might send them out to preach, and to have power to heal sicknesses and to cast out demons: Simon, to whom He gave the name Peter; James the son of Zebedee and John the brother of James, to whom He gave the name Boanerges, that is, "Sons of Thunder"; Andrew, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James the son of Alphaeus, Thaddaeus, Simon the Cananite; and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed Him. And they went into a house. (NKJV)

(Luke 6:13-16) And when it was day, He called His disciples to Himself; and from them He chose twelve whom He also named apostles: Simon, whom He also named Peter, and Andrew his brother; James and John; Philip and Bartholomew; Matthew and Thomas; James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon called the Zealot; Judas the son of James, and Judas Iscariot who also became a traitor. (NKJV)

(Acts 1:13) And when they had entered, they went up into the upper room where they were staying: Peter, James, John, and Andrew; Philip and Thomas; Bartholomew and Matthew; James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot; and Judas the son of James. (NKJV)

What can be known in this list?

1) Peter is always mentioned as first among the four lists, possibly due to his leadership

2) James and John are always together in the list of the twelve

3) There are three groups of brothers among the disciples :

A) Peter and Andrew

B) James and John

C) Matthew and James sons of Alphaeus

Matthew aka Levi is also called son of Alphaeus elsewhere in the gospels like James the son of Alphaeus . Which means they both had the same dad Alphaeus.

Mark 2:14 As He passed by, He saw Levi the son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax office.

(Luke 6:15) Matthew and Thomas; James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon called the Zealot; (NKJV)

4) Two groups of father and son were among Jesus' disciples which was:

A) Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot mention in the Gospel of John as his son twice John 6:71 He spoke of Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon.....John 12:4 Then one of His disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, who would betray Him, said,

B) James and Judas

5) Certain names were changed among his disciples by Jesus:

A) Peter's name was changed to Simon and was also called Cephas by Jesus in John 1:42

B) John and James were called the name Boanerges, that is, "Sons of Thunder";

6) Some in the List had more than one name:

A) Lebbaeus, whose surname was Thaddaeus

B) Simon called the Zealot

C) Bartholomew is called Nathanael in John 1:45-49

While at first sight these things may seem of no importance, they will be shown to be of very great importance as we study the lives of the twelve.

Chapter 01..... Jesus choosing of the Twelve

(Mark 3:13-15) And He (Jesus) went up on the mountain and called to Him those He Himself wanted. And they came to Him. Then He appointed twelve, that they might be with Him and that He might send them out to preach, and to have power to heal sicknesses and to cast out demons: (NKJV)

(Luke 6:12-13) Now it came to pass in those days that He went out to the mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God. And when it was day, He called His disciples to Himself; and from them He chose twelve whom He also named apostles: (NKJV)

I want to start in this study by showing what Jesus did before he choose his twelve disciples. What did he do? Prayer and alone time with his Father. Did he gave them a position before they left the assembly of believers? No!!! He prayed for guidance on the issue. Many chooses their workers because they have some talents or because don't want to risk them leaving the church. This is one of the problems that happens in many churches today. Because so and so comes with letters of commendation or have some talents he or she is recieved with no guidance from above needed. This also is one of the issues that happen in the church of Corinthians.

2Corinthians 3:1 ¶ Do we begin again to commend ourselves? Or do we need, as some others, epistles of commendation to you or letters of commendation from you?

Jesus spent alone time with the Father, all night long in prayer before his choosing of the twelve. We make a big mistake when we make big choices without consulting God on the issue first.

You might say Jesus made a big mistake in choosing Judas . No Jesus knew who he was choosing. Look at what Jesus tells his disciples later on in John 6.

(John 6:70-71) Jesus answered them, "Did I not choose you, the twelve, and one of you is a devil?" He spoke of Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon, for it was he who would betray Him, being one of the twelve. (NKJV)

Jesus made it very clear he knew who he was to choose to follow him. He told the Apostles time after time don't ever think you choose me but I choose you .

(John 15:16) "You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you. (NKJV)

The disciples reconized this in the book of Acts when they prayed to the Lord as they was to choose the replacement to Judas.

(Acts 1:24-25) And they prayed and said, "You, O Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which of these two You have chosen "to take part in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place." (NKJV)

These are in effect, the words of I choose you are the same words he told Israel in the Old Testament when he took them out of Egypt. Israel was also chosen.

(Deuteronomy 7:6-8) "For you are a holy people to the LORD your God; the LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for Himself, a special treasure above all the peoples on the face of the earth. "The LORD did not set His love on you nor choose you because you were more in number than any other people, for you were the least of all peoples; "but because the LORD loves you, and because He would keep the oath which He swore to your fathers, the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you from the house of bondage, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. (NKJV)

And these are the same words he tells us , his believers aswell. I choose you because I love you.

(Ephesians 1:4) just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, (NKJV)

A while back I was walking the streets of Kensington to go home. A I heard a lady preacher with a microphone yelling to everyone. Jesus loves you this is the gospel she was saying. Brothers and sisters hear me when I say to you that is not the Gospel. That is not in the Bible God doesn't love everyone. He only loves his elect who are the believers in him. The Father doesn't love everyone but only the believers in his son. The Holy Spirit doesn't love everyone but the believers in Jesus. You want to be loved by God, you must believe in Jesus. Otherwise you are a child of wrath.

John 3:36 "He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him."

Ephesians 2:3 among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others.(NKJV)

For those who think that God is not capable of hate, lets look at the following verses:

(Leviticus 26:30) I will destroy your high places, cut down your incense altars, and cast your carcasses on the lifeless forms of your idols; and My soul shall abhor you. (NKJV)

(Psalms 5:5) The boastful shall not stand in Your sight; You hate all workers of iniquity. (NKJV)

The God who is spoken about in many churches is not the God of the Bible. It is a god who the scripture speaks nothing about. If God loves everyone the same, let us not go to the Son and ask his son to cleanse us from all our sins , for there is no hell. There is no fear of wrath which is to come. But there is a hell that the scripture speaks about. And we are called to go to the Son to cleanse us from our sins as the scripture states. What makes love Love? Is uniqueness. Before I continue with a illustration this one was said when I was married. I should not love my cat , my mom, my brothers and sisters as I love my wife. That is a differant love from the rest. Love for my wife is unique otherwise it is not love. I can not go and love a other woman as I love my wife, if I go do that , it would be called Adultery. And I could not love my wife as I would love a slice of pizza. A whole differant kind of love there. The love that God has for the church is not the love he has for the world. He may love the world to a certain limit because he created it. But that is not the same he has for a believer in Jesus Christ. He loves the believers as he loves himself.

John 17:23 CEV I am one with them, and you are one with me, so that they may become completely one. Then this world's people will know that you sent me. They will know that you love my followers as much as you love me.

Example : Christian experience discipline from God in this life as a Father disciplines his child but the person who is not a believer will experience the wrath of God in this life and the life which is to come. Wrath is always reserve for enemies but discipline for those who you love. In wrath there is nothing to be learn but in discipline there is always a lesson to be learn and most of the time after the discipline on recieves benefits from it. As this world passes alway and makes way for a new one. unblievers will go to hell and be punish for all eternity, but believers in Jesus will enjoy the new heavens and new earth, will have Jesus wipe every tear from their eyes. They will experience God as no one has ever experience him before in this life and the life to come.

Chapter 02 Peter

As we start this series of teachings on the twelve Apostles of Jesus Christ in this chapter we will talk about Peter who is seen as the first in the list of the twelve . Some scholars would say that Peter is mention first because he was the leader of the twelve . But that is not the way Peter saw himself or did he ever claim the authority which the Roman Catholic Church claims for him today. Peter saw himself as a fellow elder. One among other Christian religious leaders .

(1 Peter 5:1) The elders who are among you I exhort, I who am a fellow elder and a witness of the

sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that will be revealed: (NKJV)

Although he was a Pillar aka Leader of the church in Jerusalem.

(Galatians 2:9) and when James, Cephas, and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that had been given to me, they gave me and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship, that we should go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised. (NKJV)

Among the Twelve Peter takes more room to write about more than the other since he is among the twelve the most spoken about in the four Gospels and Acts.

Peter was a fisherman by trade.

(Matthew 4:18) And Jesus, walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. (NKJV)

Who was introduced to Christ by his brother Andrew.

(John 1:39-42) He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where He was staying, and remained with Him that day (now it was about the tenth hour). One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated, the Christ). And he brought him to Jesus. Now when Jesus looked at him, He said, "You are Simon the son of Jonah. You shall be called Cephas" (which is translated, A Stone). (NKJV)

Peter had a wife

(Matthew 8:14) Now when Jesus had come into Peter's house, He saw his wife's mother lying sick with a fever. (NKJV)

(1 Corinthians 9:5) Do we have no right to take along a believing wife, as do also the other apostles, the brothers of the Lord, and Cephas? (NKJV)

In a matter of fact as we see in 1 Corinthians 9, many of the Apostles had wives. And they did not leave their wives to follow Jesus but their wives were fellow believers with them. According to the early church tradition, Peter also had a daughter, this can't be found in the Bible but in an early church writing called the Acts of Peter from the Apocryphal New Testament written not later than 200 AD

Peter was born in Bethsaida

John 1:44 Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter.

Peter was a fisherman along side of Andrew his brother, with James and John.

(Matthew 4:18-21) And Jesus, walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. Then He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men." They immediately left their nets and followed Him. Going on

from there, He saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets. He called them, (NKJV)

Peter had many faults , or as you would say up and downs. He wasn't a perfect man. He reconized himself as a sinner . He even told the Lord to depart from him for he was a sinful man .

(Luke 5:8) When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!" (NKJV)

But even with all his imperfections Jesus still told him " I will make you a fisher of men"

(Luke 5:10) and so also were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid. From now on you will catch men." (NKJV)

Peter got rebuke by God the Father for saying Moses and Elijah deserves the same honor as Jesus.

(Luke 9:33-35) Then it happened, as they were parting from Him, that Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; and let us make three tabernacles: one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah" --not knowing what he said. While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were fearful as they entered the cloud. And a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is My beloved Son. Hear Him!" (NKJV)

Peter was rebuke by Jesus for telling Jesus not to die on the cross.

(Matthew 16:22-23) Then Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, "Far be it from You, Lord; this shall not happen to You!" But He turned and said to Peter, "Get behind Me, Satan! You are an offense to Me, for you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men." (NKJV)

Peter on one occasion was rebuke by Paul for acting like a hypocrite.

(Galatians 2:11-12) Now when Peter had come to Antioch, I withstood him to his face, because he was to be blamed; for before certain men came from James, he would eat with the Gentiles; but when they came, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing those who were of the circumcision. (NKJV)

As we see Peter was a man who knew correction and he recieved it in a right way. Because we see in 2 Peter he is recommending Paul's writing as scripture.

(2 Peter 3:15-16) and consider that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation--as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given to him, has written to you, as also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which untaught and unstable people twist to their own destruction, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures. (NKJV)

Few are those who after recieving correction will accept a person who corrected them as something of importance. Peter in many ways is someone we can all relate to. Peter had many ups and downs in his Christian walk just like all of us. How many times have you fail God in your walk with Christ.

Peter was quick to speak and do things without thinking things threw, which he regreted later on. We

can look at the following for examples :

(Matthew 14:28) And Peter answered Him and said, "Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water." (NKJV)

(Matthew 16:22) Then Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, "Far be it from You, Lord; this shall not happen to You!" (NKJV)

(Matthew 26:33) Peter answered and said to Him, "Even if all are made to stumble because of You, I will never be made to stumble." (NKJV)

But he was both brave and a coward at times

(Matthew 14:30) But when he saw that the wind was boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink he cried out, saying, "Lord, save me!" (NKJV)

(Matthew 26:69-74) Now Peter sat outside in the courtyard. And a servant girl came to him, saying, "You also were with Jesus of Galilee." But he denied it before them all, saying, "I do not know what you are saying." And when he had gone out to the gateway, another girl saw him and said to those who were there, "This fellow also was with Jesus of Nazareth." But again he denied with an oath, "I do not know the Man!" And a little later those who stood by came up and said to Peter, "Surely you also are one of them, for your speech betrays you." Then he began to curse and swear, saying, "I do not know the Man!" Immediately a rooster crowed. (NKJV)

I believe if a therapist was to meet Peter he would say he was bipolar. A Bipolar person is a person with two personalities. Yet God had a plan for him. He was to use him so mightily.

Peter preached in the day of Pentecost and 3,000 souls got saved .

(Acts 2:41) Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them. (NKJV)

And in Acts 4 we see 5,000 getting saved

(Acts 4:4) However, many of those who heard the word believed; and the number of the men came to be about five thousand. (NKJV)

And like God did for Peter he could do for you if you are a Christian. Peter among the twelve is the one the New Testament speaks most about.

Peter was hot tempered.

(John 18:10) Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's servant, and cut off his right ear. The servant's name was Malchus. (NKJV)

And yet he was a man of conviction, he was tender hearted. When he denied the Lord, he wept bitterly.

(Matthew 26:75) And Peter remembered the word of Jesus who had said to him, "Before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times." So he went out and wept bitterly. (NKJV)

Peter could not read or write so he had others write for him as he told them what to say.

(1 Peter 5:12) By Silvanus, our faithful brother as I consider him, I have written to you briefly, exhorting and testifying that this is the true grace of God in which you stand. (NKJV)

(Acts 4:13) Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated and untrained men, they marveled. And they realized that they had been with Jesus. (NKJV)

It is not surprising that God could use anyone who he pleases to preach his word and win souls . And like I said before if God could use Peter , he could use you. Doesn't matter what education you might have even if you can't read or write.

According to the early church leaders what we have in the Gospel of Mark are actually the words of Peter.

Papias Bishop of Hieropolis (70-155 AD) in his Fragments 6 ("And the presbyter said this. Mark having become the interpreter of Peter,wrote down accurately whatsoever he remembered. It was not, however, in exact order that he related the sayings or deeds of Christ. For he neither heard the Lord nor accompanied Him. But afterwards, as I said, he accompanied Peter,who accommodated his instructions to the necessities [of his hearers], but with no intention of giving a regular narrative of the Lord's sayings. Wherefore Mark made no mistake in thus writing some things as he remembered them. For of one thing he took especial care, not to omit anything he had heard, and not to put anything fictitious into the statements. ")

Irenaeus (120-202 AD) in Against Heresies: Book 3 Chapter 1 ("After their departure, Mark, the disciple and interpreter of Peter,did also hand down to us in writing what had been preached by Peter.")

Eusebius (260-339 AD) Church History Book 2 Chapter 15 {" And so greatly did the splendor of piety illumine the minds of Peter's hearers that they were not satisfied with hearing once only, and were not content with the unwritten teaching of the divine Gospel, but with all sorts of entreaties they besought Mark, a follower of Peter, and the one whose Gospel is extant, that he would leave them a written monument of the doctrine which had been orally communicated to them. Nor did they cease until they had prevailed with the man, and had thus become the occasion of the written Gospel which bears the name of Mark. And they say that Peter when he had learned, through a revelation of the Spirit, of that which had been done, was pleased with the zeal of the men, and that the work obtained the sanction of his authority for the purpose of being used in the churches. Clement in the eighth book of his Hypotyposes gives this account, and with him agrees the bishop of Hierapolis named Papias. And Peter makes mention of Mark in his first epistle which they say that he wrote in Rome itself, as is indicated by him, when he calls the city, by a figure, Babylon, as he does in the following words: "The church that is at Babylon, elected together with you, saluteth you; and so doth Marcus my son. "

If this is true which I believe it is . This man who could not read or write gave us three books in our New Testament which are 1 Peter , 2 Peter and the Gospel of Mark.

According to the early christians Peter was crucified upside down. In the time of Nero for the cause of Christ Jesus. He said he was not worthy to die the way his master was.

Church history of Eusebius book 3 chapter 01 (" Peter appears to have preached in Pontus, Galatia, Bithynia, Cappadocia, and Asia to the Jews of the dispersion. And at last, having come to Rome, he was crucified head-downwards; for he had requested that he might suffer in this way.")

Foxe's Book of Martyrs {"Peter Among many other saints, the blessed apostle Peter was condemned to death, and crucified, as some do write, at Rome; albeit some others, and not without cause, do doubt thereof. Hegesippus saith that Nero sought matter against Peter to put him to death; which, when the people perceived, they entreated Peter with much ado that he would fly the city. Peter, through their importunity at length persuaded, prepared himself to avoid. But, coming to the gate, he saw the Lord Christ come to meet him, to whom he, worshipping, said, "Lord, whither dost Thou go?" To whom He answered and said, "I am come again to be crucified." By this, Peter, perceiving his suffering to be understood, returned into the city. Jerome saith that he was crucified, his head being down and his feet upward, himself so requiring, because he was (he said) unworthy to be crucified after the same form and manner as the Lord was. "}

And before his crucifixion he saw his own wife being nailed to the cross aswell. Peter loved the Lord and his Lord loved him. As he loves us believers aswell. We can learn alot of Peter's life.

Chapter 03..... Andrew

In this chapter we will be covering the brother of Peter who is Andrew. You don't always see him as the second in the list of Apostles like you don't see him as the second in the list of Mark's Gospel.

(Mark 3:14-19) Then He appointed twelve, that they might be with Him and that He might send them out to preach, and to have power to heal sicknesses and to cast out demons: Simon, to whom He gave the name Peter; James the son of Zebedee and John the brother of James, to whom He gave the name Boanerges, that is, "Sons of Thunder"; **Andrew**, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James the son of Alphaeus, Thaddaeus, Simon the Cananite; and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed Him. And they went into a house. (NKJV)

But He is known to be the first to follow Jesus along with a unnamed Apostle.

(John 1:35-40) Again, the next day, John stood with two of his disciples. And looking at Jesus as He walked, he said, "Behold the Lamb of God!" The two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus. Then Jesus turned, and seeing them following, said to them, "What do you seek?" They said to Him, "Rabbi" (which is to say, when translated, Teacher), "where are You staying?" He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where He was staying, and remained with Him that day (now it was about

the tenth hour). One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. (NKJV)

The unknown person along with Andrew who comes to Jesus first I believe to be Philip because he is seen after Andrew bringing someone to Christ.

If Andrew could be described in a few words , It would be said of him " he is one who brings people to Jesus. "

1) We see him bringing Peter to Jesus in :

(John 1:41) He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated, the Christ). (NKJV)

2) We see him bringing the boy with the two fishes and five loaves to Jesus in :

(John 6:8-9) One of His disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to Him, "There is a lad here who has five barley loaves and two small fish, but what are they among so many?" (NKJV)

3) We see him along with Philip bringing the Greeks to Jesus

(John 12:20-22) Now there were certain Greeks among those who came up to worship at the feast. Then they came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida of Galilee, and asked him, saying, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Philip came and told Andrew, and in turn Andrew and Philip told Jesus. (NKJV)

If there was anyone who had a seal to bring people to Jesus it was Andrew among the twelve. Although there was others who also showed somewhat of that seal. But Andrew was more than the others. If you notice 3 times you see in the Gospel of John him bringing people to Jesus. You could see this same pattern followed in the book of Acts.

First we see Andrew bringing his household to Jesus (aka Peter his brother)

Second he brings his fellow Jews to Jesus , he brought the jewish boy with the bread and fishes to Jesus .

Thirdly he brings the World aka the Greeks to Jesus .

This remind me of what Jesus said in Acts.

(Acts 1:8) "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." (NKJV)

Notice:

Jerusalem, and in all Judea this represents those of your household

Samaria, represents are those who offend do not speak to because they might be differnt and are around you. Your neighbors who have at times have to deal with.

To the end of the earth , that of course is the world , if you can't be a witness to those who are close to you aka family how are you going to witness to your neighbor , and if you can't witness to your neighbors how will you ever witness to those around the world in other countries . Some people desire to be missionaries and go to other parts of the world and can't even be a good witness to those in their household.

There is a story which I once heard of a couple who wanted more than anything to be missionaries to China. When they prayed they heard a voice who spoke deeply in their hearts China , China , I want you to witness my word to China. So they learned Chinese which was not an easy task for them. And they packed their things and went to China. Leaving a person taking care of their house just in case they had to return back home. Which was by the way was a neighbor who had the nickname Lisa. To their surprise months passed and not a soul was won for Christ. And on coming back home to the United States they ask Lisa what was her birth name and to their surprise it was China. Lisa aka China was the one who the Lord was tugging their hearts to witness to. And as they witness the word to her , God opened her heart and she received the Gospel message.

After what is Known in the Gospels and Acts of Andrew we know

The Obligations of Christians by William Carey {"Andrew preached to the Scythians, north of the Black Sea."}

According to the Martyr's Mirror {"Andrew taught in many countries, as in Pontus, Galatia, Bethynia, as well as at Antropophages, and afterwards in Scythia. He also traveled in the northern and the southern countries, yea, as far as into Byzantium; further, in Thracia, Macedonia, Thessalia, and Achaia, everywhere preaching Christ; whereby he converted many to the Christian faith. "}

Outside of the gospel what can be known of Andrew of how he died for his faith for the cause of Christ. Andrew was crucified for his faith in Patras (Patræ) in Achaia, in 60 AD

The Acts of Andrew

("And the Proconsul hearing this stood speechless and as it were beside himself; but as all the city made an uproar that he should loose Andrew, he drew near to the cross to loose him and take him down. But the blessed Andrew cried out with a loud voice: Suffer not Lord, thine Andrew that hath been bound upon thy cross, to be loosed again; give not me that am upon thy mystery to the shameless devil; O Jesus Christ, let not thine adversary loose him that is hung upon thy grace; O Father, let not this mean (little) one humble any more him that has known thy greatness. But do thou, Jesus Christ, whom I have seen, whom I hold, whom I love, in whom I am and shall be, receive me in peace into thine everlasting tabernacles, that by my going out there may be an entering in unto thee of many that are akin to me, and that they may rest in thy majesty. And having so said, and yet more glorified the Lord, he gave up the ghost, while we all wept and lamented at our parting from him.")

Foxe's Book of Martyrs {"Andrew Was the brother of Peter. He preached the gospel to many Asiatic nations; but on his arrival at Edessa he was taken and crucified on a cross, the two ends of which were

fixed transversely in the ground. Hence the derivation of the term, St. Andrew's Cross. "}

Martyr's Mirror {"Concerning the cause and manner of his death, the following is contained in Apophthegm. Christian. Baudart., page 3: At Patras, a city in Achaia, he converted besides many others, Maximillia, the wife of Aegaeas, the governor, to the Christian faith. This so enraged the governor against Andrew, that he threatened him with death of the cross. But the apostle said to the governor, "Had I feared the death of the cross, I should not have preached the majesty and gloriousness of the cross of Christ." The enemies of the truth having apprehended and sentenced to death the apostle Andrew, he went joyfully to the place where he was to be crucified, and, having come near the cross, he said, "O beloved cross! I have greatly longed for thee. I rejoice to see thee erected here. I come to thee with a peaceful conscience and with cheerfulness, desiring that I, who am a disciple of Him who hung on the cross, may also be crucified." The apostle said further, "The nearer I come to the cross, the nearer I come to God; and the farther I am from the cross, the farther I remain from God." The holy apostle hung three days on the cross; he was not silent, however; but as long as he could move his tongue, he instructed the people that stood by the cross, in the way of the truth, saying, among other things, "I thank my Lord Jesus Christ, that He, having used me for a time as an ambassador, now permits me to have this body, that I, through a good confession, may obtain everlasting grace and mercy. Remain steadfast in the word and doctrine which you have received, instructing one another, that you may dwell with God in eternity, and receive the fruit of His promises." The Christians and other pious people besought the governor to give Andrew unto them, and take him down from the cross., (For it appears that he was not nailed to the cross, like Christ, but tied to it). When the apostle learned of this, he cried to God, Saying, "O Lord Jesus Christ! suffer not that Thy servant, who hangs here on the tree for Thy name's sake, be released, to dwell again among men; but receive me. O my Lord, my God! whom I have known, whom I have loved, to whom I cling, whom I desire to see, and in whom I am what I am." Having spoken these words, the holy apostle committed his spirit into the hands of his heavenly Father."}

Chapter 04.....James and John the sons of Zebedee

Now in this chapter we will cover James and John. James and John left everything to follow Jesus.

(Luke 5:11) So when they had brought their boats to land, they forsook all and followed Him. (NKJV)

These two brothers Jesus named them the sons of Thunder.

(Mark 3:17) James the son of Zebedee and John the brother of James, to whom He gave the name Boanerges, that is, "Sons of Thunder"; (NKJV)

Just maybe Jesus named them this because they were very vengeful. When a Samaritan Village refused to accept Jesus, they wanted fire to come down from Heaven and strike those who rejected their Lord.

(Luke 9:51-55) Now it came to pass, when the time had come for Him to be received up, that He steadfastly set His face to go to Jerusalem, and sent messengers before His face. And as they went, they entered a village of the Samaritans, to prepare for Him. But they did not receive Him, because His face was set for the journey to Jerusalem. And when His disciples James and John saw this, they said, "Lord,

do You want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them, just as Elijah did?" But He turned and rebuked them, and said, "You do not know what manner of spirit you are of. (NKJV)

As we are seeing before John became the beloved Apostle who speaks of love in his first epistle we see he was one who knew hate.

James and John was selfish and arrogant, they wanted to be the only ones on Jesus right and left in place of authority when Jesus recives his kingdom.

(Mark 10:35-43) Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to Him, saying, "Teacher, we want You to do for us whatever we ask." And He said to them, "What do you want Me to do for you?" They said to Him, "Grant us that we may sit, one on Your right hand and the other on Your left, in Your glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you ask. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?" They said to Him, "We are able." So Jesus said to them, "You will indeed drink the cup that I drink, and with the baptism I am baptized with you will be baptized; "but to sit on My right hand and on My left is not Mine to give, but it is for those for whom it is prepared." And when the ten heard it, they began to be greatly displeased with James and John. But Jesus called them to Himself and said to them, "You know that those who are considered rulers over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. "Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant. (NKJV)

Peter , James and John was the closest disciples to Jesus . Although Jesus had twelve disciples he kept closer to these three than the rest.

They was with Jesus at the mount of Transfiguration

(Mark 9:2-4) Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John, and led them up on a high mountain apart by themselves; and He was transfigured before them. His clothes became shining, exceedingly white, like snow, such as no launderer on earth can whiten them. And Elijah appeared to them with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus. (NKJV)

They was with Jesus at the raising of Jairus daughter

(Mark 5:37) And He permitted no one to follow Him except Peter, James, and John the brother of James. (NKJV)

They was with Andrew when Jesus predicted the destruction of the Jewish Temple

(Mark 13:1-4) Then as He went out of the temple, one of His disciples said to Him, "Teacher, see what manner of stones and what buildings are here!" And Jesus answered and said to him, "Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone shall be left upon another, that shall not be thrown down." Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked Him privately, "Tell us, when will these things be? And what will be the sign when all these things will be fulfilled?" (NKJV)

John along with Peter was sent by Jesus to prepare the passover (last supper)

(Luke 22:8) And He sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat."
(NKJV)

They was the closest to Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane

(Matthew 26:36-38) Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and said to the disciples, "Sit here while I go and pray over there." And He took with Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and He began to be sorrowful and deeply distressed. Then He said to them, "My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch with Me." (NKJV)

John was the one who put his head on Jesus chest and most likely heard Jesus heart beat. The beloved Apostle John heard the heart beat of God. And was able to ask him who was it that was to betray him among the twelve.

(John 13:21-25) When Jesus had said these things, He was troubled in spirit, and testified and said, "Most assuredly, I say to you, one of you will betray Me." Then the disciples looked at one another, perplexed about whom He spoke. Now there was leaning on Jesus' bosom one of His disciples, whom Jesus loved. Simon Peter therefore motioned to him to ask who it was of whom He spoke. Then, leaning back on Jesus' breast, he said to Him, "Lord, who is it?" (NKJV)

John was also the one Jesus trusted with the care of his earthly mother when he was to die on the cross. And John did took care of Mary. Both of their tombs are in Epheus

(John 19:25-27) Now there stood by the cross of Jesus His mother, and His mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus therefore saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing by, He said to His mother, "Woman, behold your son!" Then He said to the disciple, "Behold your mother!" And from that hour that disciple took her to his own home. (NKJV)

John was according to tradition the youngest among the Apostles. It is reported that he was in Ephesus where he wrote his Epistles and Gospel of John.

Iranaeus - Against Heresies - Book 3 Chapter 1 {" Afterwards, John, the disciple of the Lord, who also had leaned upon His breast, did himself publish a Gospel during his residence at Ephesus in Asia."}

And John is the only Apostle who got to live to a very late age dying of Natural causes while the other Apostles died as martyrs. That is not to say that John did not suffer for his faith at a old age. John was imprisoned at a very old age by Roman Emperor Titus Flavius Domitianus in 95 AD because of his witness of Christ and sent to die at Patmos but it was there that he recieved his vision of the Book of Revelation and later on freed.

(Revelation 1:9) I, John, both your brother and companion in the tribulation and kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was on the island that is called Patmos for the word of God and for the testimony of Jesus Christ. (NKJV)

Foxe's Book of Martyrs {"John The "beloved disciple," was brother to James the Great. The churches of Smyrna, Pergamos, Sardis, Philadelphia, Laodicea, and Thyatira, were founded by him. From Ephesus he was ordered to be sent to Rome, where it is affirmed he was cast into a cauldron of boiling oil. He escaped by miracle, without injury. Domitian afterwards banished him to the Isle of Patmos, where he wrote the Book of Revelation. Nerva, the successor of Domitian, recalled him. He was the only apostle who escaped a violent death. "}

Eusebius Book 3 states {" It is said that in this persecution the apostle and evangelist John, who was still alive, was condemned to dwell on the island of Patmos in consequence of his testimony to the divine word. Irenæus, in the fifth book of his work Against Heresies, where he discusses the number of the name of Antichrist which is given in the so-called Apocalypse of John, speaks as follows concerning him: "If it were necessary for his name to be proclaimed openly at the present time, it would have been declared by him who saw the revelation. For it was seen not long ago, but almost in our own generation, at the end of the reign of Domitian. To such a degree, indeed, did the teaching of our faith flourish at that time that even those writers who were far from our religion did not hesitate to mention in their histories the persecution and the martyrdoms which took place during it. And they, indeed, accurately indicated the time. For they recorded that in the fifteenth year of Domitian Flavia Domitilla, daughter of a sister of Flavius Clement, who at that time was one of the consuls of Rome, was exiled with many others to the island of Pontia in consequence of testimony borne to Christ."}

James his brother was killed by sword at the command of Herod, he was beheaded and was the first Apostle to be martyr among the twelve .

(Acts 12:1-2) Now about that time Herod the king stretched out his hand to harass some from the church. Then he killed James the brother of John with the sword. (NKJV)

There is a interesting story in Church History of Eusebius Book 2 about the one who led James to the Judgment seat confess Christ and was also killed with James and it states {"Now about that time" (it is clear that he means the time of Claudius) "Herod the King stretched forth his hands to vex certain of the Church. And he killed James the brother of John with the sword."And concerning this James, Clement, in the seventh book of his Hypotyposes, relates a story which is worthy of mention; telling it as he received it from those who had lived before him. He says that the one who led James to the judgment-seat, when he saw him bearing his testimony, was moved, and confessed that he was himself also a Christian. They were both therefore, he says, led away together; and on the way he begged James to forgive him. And he, after considering a little, said, "Peace be with thee," and kissed him. And thus they were both beheaded at the same time."}

There is a lot one can learn from these two brothers , one is to stand for the faith no matter what is the cost. A other is to continue to the end of your life in the christian faith.

There is a not popular belief which can't be backup by scripture or church history that teaches John died at the same time as James. There is no evidence for this even though there is a group of people who are teaching that.

Chapter 05.....Philip and Bartholomew

In this chapter we will be looking at Philip and Bartholomew. Philip was most likely the second to follow Jesus after Andrew. Because we see him right after Andrew in John 1 And this would make Bartholomew the 4th to follow after Jesus. Like Andrew , Philip when he met Jesus , wanted everyone to know that he found the Messiah. And He in turn told Bartholomew who is also known as Nathanael but Nathanael was not quick to believe till he had a experience with Jesus himself and then Knew by experience that Jesus was the real deal. Let's read but I want to expound just a little on the verses.

(John 1:43-51) The following day Jesus wanted to go to Galilee, and He found Philip and said to him, "Follow Me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael (aka Bartholomew)and said to him, "We have found Him of whom Moses in the law, and also the prophets, wrote--Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph."

(Although Philip did not get all his information correct , he told Nathanael what he knew, He got right that Jesus was spoken in the law and the prophets , that he was the Messiah, that was correct , Jesus was raise Nazareth but he wasn't born in Nazareth , he was born Bethlehem and Joseph was Jesus step dad , Jesus real Father was God the Father in heaven Jesus was born of a virgin, He wasn't born of any natural birth)

And Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?"

(Nazareth was a bad area , maybe it would be like someone telling me I found a good Bible base church in the area of Kensington in Philadelphia , they might get the same reaction from me , why I say that because I have visited many of the churches in that area , and I haven't found one good bible base church , they are very far from being a Bible base church, one of these so call churches in that area even told me there is no such thing as sin. Other focus was more on sports being an actual church , Many which had a woman pastoring men which is not allowed in the Bible 1 Timothy 2,3 , one of these ladies was a lesbian , others who denied the Trinity , others KJV only cults , a other who pastor told me , I don't speak about Theology or doctrine in this church but just miracles . If there is one good Bible base church, it might of started recently. This just my experience , I only ruffly visited 20 churches, I have not visited all the churches in that area. But God could be at this time lifting many godly men for that call of being a pastor in this area where I live. Churches which is not trying to make a buck in expense of the brothers and sisters but really seeking to save souls really teaching them the Bible. Nazareth was just that kind of place we know that the people in Nazareth tried to kill Jesus because of their unbelief.

(Matthew 13:54-58) And when He had come to His own country, He taught them in their synagogue, so that they were astonished and said, "Where did this Man get this wisdom and these mighty works? "Is this not the carpenter's son? Is not His mother called Mary? And His brothers James, Joses, Simon, and Judas? "And His sisters, are they not all with us? Where then did this Man get all these things?" So they were offended at Him. But Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his own country and in his own house." Now He did not do many mighty works there because of their unbelief. (NKJV)

(Luke 4:15-29) And He taught in their synagogues, being glorified by all. So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and

stood up to read. And He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written: "The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed; To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD." Then He closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him. And He began to say to them, "Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing." So all bore witness to Him, and marveled at the gracious words which proceeded out of His mouth. And they said, "Is this not Joseph's son?" He said to them, "You will surely say this proverb to Me, 'Physician, heal yourself! Whatever we have heard done in Capernaum, do also here in Your country.'" Then He said, "Assuredly, I say to you, no prophet is accepted in his own country. "But I tell you truly, many widows were in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a great famine throughout all the land; "but to none of them was Elijah sent except to Zarephath, in the region of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow. "And many lepers were in Israel in the time of Elisha the prophet, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian." So all those in the synagogue, when they heard these things, were filled with wrath, and rose up and thrust Him out of the city; and they led Him to the brow of the hill on which their city was built, that they might throw Him down over the cliff. (NKJV)

Philip said to him, "Come and see."

(Those are the best words one can tell a unbeliever, come and experience Jesus for yourself, don't just take my words for it, I want you to experience the real Jesus and not the Jesus of the cults)

Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward Him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no deceit!" Nathanael said to Him, "How do You know me?"

(Jesus is able to see the inner thoughts of men, and he knows what kind of person they are . Just look at what John 2 states

(John 2:24-25) But Jesus did not commit Himself to them, because He knew all men, and had no need that anyone should testify of man, for He knew what was in man. (NKJV)

He knows what was in man because he was and is their creator .)

Jesus answered and said to him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you."

(There must of been a religous experience that Nathanael had under a fig tree ussally Jews would go under a fig tree to study the Torah or to be in prayer and meditation

(Micah 4:4) But everyone shall sit under his vine and under his fig tree, And no one shall make them afraid; For the mouth of the LORD of hosts has spoken. (NKJV)

(Zechariah 3:10) In that day,' says the LORD of hosts, 'Everyone will invite his neighbor Under his vine and under his fig tree.'" (NKJV)

Nathanael answered and said to Him, "Rabbi, You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!"

(Here we see the unbeliever become a believer)

Jesus answered and said to him, "Because I said to you, 'I saw you under the fig tree,' do you believe? You will see greater things than these." And He said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, hereafter you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man." (NKJV)

(Jesus is calling himself the ladder which Jacob saw in his dream which he saw angels walking upon (Genesis 28:12) Then he dreamed, and behold, a ladder was set up on the earth, and its top reached to heaven; and there the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. (NKJV))

Philip is the disciple who would ask the Lord to show him the Father at the night before Jesus crucifixion

(John 14:8-11) Philip said to Him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, 'Show us the Father'? "Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own authority; but the Father who dwells in Me does the works. "Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father in Me, or else believe Me for the sake of the works themselves. (NKJV) According to tradition it is believed that he preached in Ukraine and was crucified on a large cross in Turkey while being stoned to death .

Obligations of Christians by William Carey {"Philip is reported to have preached in upper Asia, Scythia, and Phrygia;"}

Martyr's Mirror ("After the distribution of the countries, Philip taught several years in Scythia, where he planted many churches; and since Syria and the upper part of Asia fell to his particular share, he laid the foundations of faith in many of these cities.

Finally he came to Phrygia, and wrought several signs at Hierapolis. There the Ebionites, who not only denied the divinity of Christ, but also worshiped idols, continued obstinately in their blasphemous doctrines and idolatry, and did not listen to this pious apostle of Christ, but apprehended him, and, having made his head fast to a pillar, stoned him; whereupon death ensued, and he thus fell asleep in the Lord. His body was buried in the aforementioned city Hierapolis.")

Foxe's Book of Martyrs {"Philip Was born at Bethsaida, in Galilee and was first called by the name of "disciple." He labored diligently in Upper Asia, and suffered martyrdom at Heliopolis, in Phrygia. He was scourged, thrown into prison, and afterwards crucified, A.D. 54. "}

But what about Nathanael aka Bartholomew? Some scholars believe that he preached in Asia minor , in India and in Armenia he was flayed alive.

Obligations of Christians by William Carey {"Bartholomew in India, on this side the Ganges, Phrygia, and Armenia; "}

Foxe's Book of Martyrs {"Bartholomew Preached in several countries, and having translated the Gospel of Matthew into the language of India, he propagated it in that country. He was at length cruelly beaten and then crucified by the impatient idolaters. "}

Trail of Blood by Dr J.M. Carroll {"Philip crucified and stoned, Bartholomew flayed alive,"}

These Apostles were tough men for their faith in Jesus . and we need to be like them for our faith in Jesus.

Chapter 06.....Thomas with the sons of Alphaeus Matthew and James

In this chapter we will take a look at Thomas and the two sons of Alphaeus which are Matthew and James. As we saw in Chapter 1 that Matthew and James are both sons of Alphaeus by comparing

(Mark 2:14) As He passed by, He saw Levi the son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax office. And He said to him, "Follow Me." So he arose and followed Him. (NKJV)

Matthew 10:3 Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Lebbaeus, whose surname was Thaddaeus;

So these two are brothers. So it might be possible that James who is Matthew's brother had told him about Christ Jesus before he left all to follow after Christ.

(Luke 5:27-28) After these things He went out and saw a tax collector named Levi, sitting at the tax office. And He said to him, "Follow Me." So he left all, rose up, and followed Him. (NKJV)

Matthew after the resurrection of the Lord wrote the gospel which bares his name in hebrew and others translated it into Greek.

Papias who was alive in 70-155 AD not that far from the writings which was written. He states in his fragments about Matthew following:

("Matthew put together the oracles[of the Lord] in the Hebrew language, and each one interpreted them asbest he could. ")

Eusebius of Caesarea in Ecclesiatical History book 3 Chapter 24 {"For Matthew, who had at first preached to the Hebrews, when he was about to go to other peoples, committed his Gospel to writing in his native tongue, and thus compensated those whom he was obliged to leave for the loss of his presence."}

It is believed that Matthew preached the good news about Jesus after the ressurection in Persia , Macedonia, Syria , Parthenon, Media , and Ethiopia. Matthew even got to brings kings.

Obligations of Christians by William Carey {"Matthew in Arabia, or Asiatic Ethiopia, and Parthia"}

Apostle Matthew, tradition suggests that he preached the Gospel in Ethiopia and was eventually martyred there. It is believed that he was either stoned or killed with a sword.

Martyr's Mirror {"In Ethiopia he accomplished much, with teaching as well as with miracles; and there he also left unto posterity after his death his written Gospel, from which it can easily be seen what faith he maintained, namely, the faith in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, that He became a real man, through the power of the Holy Ghost, in His mother Mary. Mat 1st chapter, throughout.

History states that immediately after the death of King Aeglippus, who was attached to the Christians, his' successor Hytacus, an unbelieving heathen, persecuted this apostle, and that at a certain time, when this pious apostle of Christ was teaching the church of God, he caused him to be apprehended and, as some write, nailed to the ground, and beheaded, in Naddavar, the capital of Ethiopia, where he is also buried, according to Venantius Fortunatus, who wrote, over a thousand years ago,"For the great city Naddavar shall restore to us at the last day the eminent apostle Matthew.""}

Foxe's Book of Martyrs {"Matthew Whose occupation was that of a toll-gatherer, was born at Nazareth. He wrote his gospel in Hebrew, which was afterwards translated into Greek by James the Less. The scene of his labors was Parthia, and Ethiopia, in which latter country he suffered martyrdom, being slain with a halberd in the city of Nadabah, A.D. 60. "}

Now lets speak about James his brother, be known also as James the less not much is said about him in the New Testament than being the son of Alphaeus and one of the twelve .

We know he was in the upper room with the others at the day of Pentecost.

Acts 1:13 And when they had entered, they went up into the upper room where they were staying: Peter, James, John, and Andrew; Philip and Thomas; Bartholomew and Matthew; James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot; and Judas the son of James.

That the twelve stood in Jerusalem for a time at the persecution that came about at the time of Stephens death.

Acts 8:1 ¶ Now Saul was consenting to his death. At that time a great persecution arose against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles.

After that he is unseen in the Bible accounts except that he had a wife according to Paul , all the Apostles had wives.

(1 Corinthians 9:5) Do we have no right to take along a believing wife, as do also the other apostles, the brothers of the Lord, and Cephas? (NKJV)

Now what is known about him outside the Bible that he might of beaten with a club or he might of also died of a old age 94 when this happen.

Foxe's Book of Martyrs {"At the age of ninety-four he was beat and stoned by the Jews; and finally had his brains dashed out with a fuller's club. "}

Now lets go Thomas. Thomas is always given a bad reputation by some as he comes into mind as one who

didn't believe in the resurrection of the Lord till he experience that he was truly alive. Even now the name doubting Thomas comes into mind as we mention him. But a careful study we will find that all the apostles doubted the resurrection till they saw Jesus rose from the dead.

(Mark 16:9-11) Now when He rose early on the first day of the week, He appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom He had cast seven demons. She went and told those who had been with Him, as they mourned and wept. And when they heard that He was alive and had been seen by her, they did not believe. (NKJV)

Thomas according to scripture was a brave disciple who love his Lord and was willing to die for him.

(John 11:7-16) Then after this He said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." The disciples said to Him, "Rabbi, lately the Jews sought to stone You, and are You going there again?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. "But if one walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him." These things He said, and after that He said to them, "Our friend Lazarus sleeps, but I go that I may wake him up." Then His disciples said, "Lord, if he sleeps he will get well." However, Jesus spoke of his death, but they thought that He was speaking about taking rest in sleep. Then Jesus said to them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. "And I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, that you may believe. Nevertheless let us go to him." Then Thomas, who is called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with Him." (NKJV)

Thomas name means " a twin" which suggest that Thomas had a twin brother.

John 11:16 Then Thomas, who is called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with Him."

John 20:24 Now Thomas, called the Twin, one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came.

John 21:2 Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of His disciples were together.(NKJV)

You hear lots of crazy things in TBN , I once heard a preacher from TBN say that his name was twin because he was the twin brother of Jesus . That is nonsense. For Jesus to have a twin brother would mean that Thomas was also born of a virgin birth which is not biblical at all . Or logical in theology . Jesus might had younger brothers who look like him , but he didn't have any twin brother who came out the same time as he did.

Thomas did have a twin but it wasn't Jesus . He is not mention as one of the brothers of the Lord.

Mark 6:3 "Is this not the carpenter, the Son of Mary, and brother of James, Joses, Judas, and Simon? And are not His sisters here with us?" And they were offended at Him.

Thomas was also the one who ask Jesus about the way of salvation which led Jesus to say he was the way to Salvation.

(John 14:5-6) Thomas said to Him, "Lord, we do not know where You are going, and how can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. (NKJV)

Jesus told Thomas there was only one way to salvation and that was Jesus himself . When Jesus resurrected he appeared to ten of his disciples at first before he appeared to Thomas. So of course because Thomas didn't see Jesus he stood in doubt while the others believed until he saw Jesus for himself. But when he saw Jesus he confess Jesus as his Lord and God.

(John 20:24-29) Now Thomas, called the Twin, one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. The other disciples therefore said to him, "We have seen the Lord." So he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe." And after eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, "Peace to you!" Then He said to Thomas, "Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing." And Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." (NKJV)

You know what if you are a believer in Jesus Christ , that he died and rose again from dead for your sins to be forgin you are blessed according to this passage. And you will be bless with salvation.

Now What was of Thomas after the day of Pentecost ? It is believed that Thomas preached in India and there he died by being speared for his faith.

Thomas for his witness of the resurrection was killed by Hindu priest of Kali in India at their command speared on December 21, 72 AD

The Acts of Thomas chapter 168 ("And when he had thus prayed he said unto the soldiers: Come hither and accomplish the commandments of him that sent you. And the four came and pierced him with their spears, and he fell down and died. And all the brethren wept; and they brought beautiful robes and much and fair linen, and buried him in a royal sepulchre wherein the former (first) kings were laid.")

Chapter 07.....Lebbaeus and Simon the Canaanite

In this chapter we will look at Lebbaeus and Simmon the Canaanite. Lebbaeus is also known as Thaddaeus

Matthew 10:3 Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and **Lebbaeus, whose surname was Thaddaeus;**

Mr 3:18 Andrew, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James the son of Alphaeus, **Thaddaeus**, Simon the Cananite;

Also known as Judas the Son of James

Luke 6:16 Judas the son of James, and Judas Iscariot who also became a traitor.

Also known as Judas (not Iscariot)

John 14:22 Judas (not Iscariot) said to Him, "Lord, how is it that You will manifest Yourself to us, and not to the world?"

And Simon is known as the Canaanite and the Zealot.

Mark 3:18 Andrew, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James the son of Alphaeus, Thaddaeus, **Simon the Cananite;**

Luke 6:15 Matthew and Thomas; James the son of Alphaeus, and **Simon called the Zealot;**

Simon should not be confuse with Simon Peter.

We know that Lebbaeus Thaddaeus Judas had a question which he ask Jesus. Why would Jesus only reveal himself to his disciples after the ressurection and not to everyone?

(John 14:22-23) Judas (not Iscariot) said to Him, "Lord, how is it that You will manifest Yourself to us, and not to the world?" Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him. (NKJV)

This Thaddaeus was the son of James

Luke 6:16 Judas the son of James, and Judas Iscariot who also became a traitor.

The question should be ask which James is in referance for the Bible speaks of a numer of James . For example James the son of Zebedee, James the son of Alphaeus , and James the brother of the Lord . The Bible is not very clear on this issue.

Eusebius early Church Father Church states that he was sent by Thomas to preached in Edesa and while their healed their King.

Church History of Eusebius Book 1 chapter 13 {

Narrative concerning the Prince of the Edessenenes.

The divinity of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ being noised abroad among all men on account of his wonder-working power, he attracted countless numbers from foreign countries lying far away from Judea, who had the hope of being cured of their diseases and of all kinds of sufferings. For instance the King Abgarus, who ruled with great glory the nations beyond the Euphrates, being afflicted with a terrible disease which it was beyond the power of human skill to cure, when he heard of the name of Jesus, and of his miracles, which were attested by all with one accord sent a message to him by a courier and begged him to heal his disease. But he did not at that time comply with his request; yet he deemed him worthy of a personal letter in which he said that he would send one of his disciples to cure his

disease, and at the same time promised salvation to himself and all his house.

Not long afterward his promise was fulfilled. For after his resurrection from the dead and his ascent into heaven, Thomas, one of the twelve apostles, under divine impulse sent Thaddeus, who was also numbered among the seventy disciples of Christ, to Edessa, as a preacher and evangelist of the teaching of Christ. And all that our Saviour had promised received through him its fulfillment. You have written evidence of these things taken from the archives of Edessa, which was at that time a royal city. For in the public registers there, which contain accounts of ancient times and the acts of Abgarus, these things have been found preserved down to the present time. But there is no better way than to hear the epistles themselves which we have taken from the archives and have literally translated from the Syriac language in the following manner.

Copy of an epistle written by Abgarus the ruler to Jesus, and sent to him at Jerusalem by Ananias the swift courier.

"Abgarus, ruler of Edessa, to Jesus the excellent Saviour who has appeared in the country of Jerusalem, greeting. I have heard the reports of thee and of thy cures as performed by thee without medicines or herbs. For it is said that thou makest the blind to see and the lame to walk, that thou cleansest lepers and castest out impure spirits and demons, and that thou healest those afflicted with lingering disease, and raisest the dead. And having heard all these things concerning thee, I have concluded that one of two things must be true: either thou art God, and having come down from heaven thou doest these things, or else thou, who doest these things, art the Son of God. I have therefore written to thee to ask thee that thou wouldest take the trouble to come to me and heal the disease which I have. For I have heard that the Jews are murmuring against thee and are plotting to injure thee. But I have a very small yet noble city which is great enough for us both."

The answer of Jesus to the ruler Abgarus by the courier Ananias.

"Blessed art thou who hast believed in me without having seen me. For it is written concerning me, that they who have seen me will not believe in me, and that they who have not seen me will believe and be saved. But in regard to what thou hast written me, that I should come to thee, it is necessary for me to fulfill all things here for which I have been sent, and after I have fulfilled them thus to be taken up again to him that sent me. But after I have been taken up I will send to thee one of my disciples, that he may heal thy disease and give life to thee and thine."

To these epistles there was added the following account in the Syriac language. "After the ascension of Jesus, Judas, who was also called Thomas, sent to him Thaddeus, an apostle, one of the Seventy. When he was come he lodged with Tobias, the son of Tobias. When the report of him got abroad, it was told Abgarus that an apostle of Jesus was come, as he had written him. Thaddeus began then in the power of God to heal every disease and infirmity, insomuch that all wondered. And when Abgarus heard of the great and wonderful things which he did and of the cures which he performed, he began to suspect that he was the one of whom Jesus had written him, saying, 'After I have been taken up I will send to thee one of my disciples who will heal thee.'

Therefore, summoning Tobias, with whom Thaddeus lodged, he said, I have heard that a certain man of power has come and is lodging in thy house. Bring him to me. And Tobias coming to Thaddeus said to him, The ruler Abgarus summoned me and told me to bring thee to him that thou mightest heal him. And Thaddeus said, I will go, for I have been sent to him with power. Tobias therefore arose early

on the following day, and taking Thaddeus came to Abgarus. And when he came, the nobles were present and stood about Abgarus. And immediately upon his entrance a great vision appeared to Abgarus in the countenance of the apostle Thaddeus. When Abgarus saw it he prostrated himself before Thaddeus, while all those who stood about were astonished; for they did not see the vision, which appeared to Abgarus alone. He then asked Thaddeus if he were in truth a disciple of Jesus the Son of God, who had said to him, 'I will send thee one of my disciples, who shall heal thee and give thee life.' And Thaddeus said, Because thou hast mightily believed in him that sent me, therefore have I been sent unto thee. And still further, if thou believest in him, the petitions of thy heart shall be granted thee as thou believest. And Abgarus said to him, So much have I believed in him that I wished to take an army and destroy those Jews who crucified him, had I not been deterred from it by reason of the dominion of the Romans. And Thaddeus said, Our Lord has fulfilled the will of his Father, and having fulfilled it has been taken up to his Father. And Abgarus said to him, I too have believed in him and in his Father. And Thaddeus said to him, Therefore I place my hand upon thee in his name. And when he had done it, immediately Abgarus was cured of the disease and of the suffering which he had. And Abgarus marvelled, that as he had heard concerning Jesus, so he had received in very deed through his disciple Thaddeus, who healed him without medicines and herbs, and not only him, but also Abdus the son of Abdus, who was afflicted with the gout; for he too came to him and fell at his feet, and having received a benediction by the imposition of his hands, he was healed. The same Thaddeus cured also many other inhabitants of the city, and did wonders and marvelous works, and preached the word of God. And afterward Abgarus said, Thou, O Thaddeus, doest these things with the power of God, and we marvel. But, in addition to these things, I pray thee to inform me in regard to the coming of Jesus, how he was born; and in regard to his power, by what power he performed those deeds of which I have heard. And Thaddeus said, Now indeed will I keep silence, since I have been sent to proclaim the word publicly. But tomorrow assemble for me all thy citizens, and I will preach in their presence and sow among them the word of God, concerning the coming of Jesus, how he was born; and concerning his mission, for what purpose he was sent by the Father; and concerning the power of his works, and the mysteries which he proclaimed in the world, and by what power he did these things; and concerning his new preaching, and his abasement and humiliation, and how he humbled himself, and died and debased his divinity and was crucified, and descended into Hades, and burst the bars which from eternity had not been broken, and raised the dead; for he descended alone, but rose with many, and thus ascended to his Father. Abgarus therefore commanded the citizens to assemble early in the morning to hear the preaching of Thaddeus, and afterward he ordered gold and silver to be given him. But he refused to take it, saying, If we have forsaken that which was our own, how shall we take that which is another's? These things were done in the three hundred and fortieth year." }

We know he was crucified in Edessa for the cause of Christ.

Foxe's Book of Martyrs {"Jude The brother of James, was commonly called Thaddeus. He was crucified at Edessa, A.D. 72. "}

Martyr's Mirror {"As regards his brother Judas, surnamed Lebbeus, and also, Thaddeus, who was likewise an apostle of Jesus Christ, nothing is said of him in Evangelical history; only there is mention made of a question which he asked the Lord Jesus, saying, Lord, how is it that thou wilt manifest thyself unto us, and not unto the world? Mat 10:3; Mar 3:18; Joh 14:22.

It was this apostle who also wrote a comforting letter to the believers, in which he admonishes them to remain steadfast in the faith once received; and threatens the unbelievers with the severe judgment of God.

In accordance with the division of the world made by the apostles for the preaching of the Gospel, he traveled in Mesopotamia, Syria, Arabia, and as far as Edessa. Finally, having gone to Persia, he there reproved and opposed the pagan idolatry; on which account he was beaten to death by the idolatrous priests, who were losing their gain. Isidor. and Niceph., Sabell. Enece. 7, lib. 14. Bybelsch Ncrmbcrck, letter 1., on the name of Judas Thaddeus, fol. 535. Konst-tooneel, etc., in the life of Judas Thaddeus, or Lebbeus.

Simon the Canaanite, or Zelotes, who was a son of Alpheus, is not distinguished by some from Simon the bishop at Jerusalem, who was a son of Cleophas; hence has originated the error that Simon Zelotes is said to have been killed A. D. 108 (see Byb. Ncemb., fol. 870, Col 1), which, properly, is to be understood of Simon, the bishop at Jerusalem, the son of Cleophas; for Simon Zelotes and his brother Judas Thaddeus, according to testimony, were killed towards the close of the persecution by Nero, or about A. D. 70."}

Now let's talk about Simmon the Zealot. We know that Judas the Iscariot was Simon's son.

(John 6:71) He spoke of Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon, for it was he who would betray Him, being one of the twelve. (NKJV)

John 13:26 Jesus answered, "It is he to whom I shall give a piece of bread when I have dipped it." And having dipped the bread, He gave it to Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon

Simon was before he met the Lord a Zealot. The Zealots were a very scary bunch. They started with a group of protesters, they were against the taxes. But they went a little too far. We can read a little about their leader in

(Acts 5:37) "After this man, Judas of Galilee rose up in the days of the census, and drew away many people after him. He also perished, and all who obeyed him were dispersed. (NKJV)

They refuse to pay tribute to the Romans on the ground that it was violating the principal that God was the only king of Israel. They rebelled against the Romans but was soon scattered because their leader got killed. But they would be a terror to the Roman soldiers in that they carried with them the Roman dagger, and every chance that they would take they would attack and slit a Roman's throat or to kill tax collectors since they saw them as betrayers. They would dress like every other person. You couldn't tell they were a zealot. But they were the terrorist of those days. This group eventually would take over Jerusalem right before its destruction by the Romans. And when they took over they would kill anyone who would break any of the laws of Moses including the breaking of the sabbath. This is why Jesus said

(Matthew 24:20) "And pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath. (NKJV)

Simmon most likely never thought his son Judas was to go as far as he did in betraying his master. Simmon would go on to preach the gospel in Africa and even as far as Britain. Which it was believed that while being there he was crucified in 74 AD.

Foxe's Book of Martyrs {"Simon Surnamed Zelotes, preached the Gospel in Mauritania, Africa, and even

in Britain, in which latter country he was crucified, A.D. 74. "}

Martyr's Mirror {"Simon the Canaanite, surnamed Zelotes, that is, Zealot, the son of Alpheus, the brother of James, Joses, and Juda, and a relative of Christ, was constituted by Christ one of His twelve apostles, to preach the Gospel, first among the Jews, and afterwards among the heathen; to which end he, together with the others who were in like ministry with him, received the Holy Ghost on the day of Pentecost. Mat 10:4; Acts 1:13; Mat 13:55; Mar 6:3.

He traveled in Egypt, Cyrene, Africa, Mauritania, throughout Lybia, and in the islands of Great Britain, where he preached the Gospel. Isid. de Vita et Mort. 5, 5. Niceph., lib. 2, cap. 40.

Afterwards having preached everywhere, writes N. D. C., he came to the Western Sea, also into England, and their neighboring places.

Finally, it is stated by others, he went to Persia, where he found his brother Judas. Continuing together steadfastly in the duties of their apostleship, they sealed the divine truth with their blood. "}

What can we learn from these disciples that even throu family members and people around you may seem to disappoint you, that should not be a cause to stop serving Jesus . These men died for Jesus in the same matter that Jesus died for them on a cross.

Chapter 08.....Judas

This Chapter we will be covering the person of Judas Iscariot. It is suggest since he was Simon's son that he also was a Zealot aswell. Iscariot means a man of murder , a hiring, of the assassins. Whether that name was given to him before he betrayed Jesus or after it suits him very well. As I am writting this study I wonder how much did Simon suffered when he found out what his son did. The Scripture states the following about Judas.

That he was the tresure of the group, he didn't care for the poor and he was a thief.

(John 12:4-6) Then one of His disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, who would betray Him, said, "Why was this fragrant oil not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" This he said, not that he cared for the poor, but because he was a thief, and had the money box; and he used to take what was put in it. (NKJV)

(John 13:29) For some thought, because Judas had the money box, that Jesus had said to him, "Buy those things we need for the feast," or that he should give something to the poor. (NKJV)

If one sees the movies about Judas they show Judas not as a thief persay but one who tried to prove to others Jesus as the Messiah but was then disappointed and that why Judas betrayed. But this is far from the truth . Judas was not trying to show his company of the Zealots that Jesus was the Messiah. In matter of fact the reason he sold Jesus for 30 pieces of silver was because he was angry at Jesus for leting Mary the sister of Lazraus pour expensive oil on Jesus and not giving it to him to sell it for himself.

(Matthew 26:11-15) "For you have the poor with you always, but Me you do not have always. "For in pouring this fragrant oil on My body, she did it for My burial. "Assuredly, I say to you, wherever this gospel is preached in the whole world, what this woman has done will also be told as a memorial to her." Then one of the twelve, called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, "What are you willing to give me if I deliver Him to you?" And they counted out to him thirty pieces of silver. (NKJV)

The Amazing thing we hear about Judas along with the twelve preached and did heal and did miracles. So Just because a person can preach , do healings and miracles doesn't mean he or she is saved.

(Matthew 10:1) And when He had called His twelve disciples to Him, He gave them power over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease. (NKJV)

Miracles , healings and casting out demons can be done by anyone , God can use certain people for that but it doesn't guarantee their salvation.

(Matthew 7:21-23) "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. "Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' "And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!' (NKJV)

Judas loved money, money in itself is not evil but we are warn in the scripture of the evils of the love of Money. I have seen people leaving going to church because they have a business. And I have also seen others using the church as a marketplace to make money which should not be done. All because of the love of money.

(1 Timothy 6:10) For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows. (NKJV)

The House of God should never be used as a Market place as John 2 states

(John 2:16) And He said to those who sold doves, "Take these things away! Do not make My Father's house a house of merchandise!" (NKJV)

Now I want to talk about how Judas died . There seem to be a paradox of two different accounts to his death. If one was to get into a deep study of the two accounts one will notice it is not two but really just one account. Lets read them both if we could put them together.

(Matthew 27:3-5) Then Judas, His betrayer, seeing that He had been condemned, was remorseful and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, saying, "I have sinned by betraying innocent blood." And they said, "What is that to us? You see to it!" Then he threw down the pieces of silver in the temple and departed, and went and hanged himself. (NKJV)

(Acts 1:16-18) "Men and brethren, this Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke before by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus; "for he was numbered with us and obtained a part in this ministry." (Now this man purchased a field with the wages

of iniquity; and falling headlong, he burst open in the middle and all his entrails gushed out. (NKJV)

Did Judas hang himself or did he fell from a tall place and had his entrails gushed out. The answer is a easy one. He hang himself and the rope broke , causing Judas to fall where he was hanged which led burst open in the middle and all his entrails gushed out. This problem is not difficult if you just sit down and think things through. Which of course if you are going to hang yourself you won't do it in a place your toes touches the floor you have to seek a really high place. And Judas did that. You might seek a tree near a cliff or a really tall tree. It is common sense. I am not trying to promote suicide because it is against the word of God . My stand is that those who do such them will be condemn. I go against the view that those who commit suicide will still go to heaven if they are a christian. These people who tell you that your loved one is saved because they made that one time confession and committed suicide is lying to you. They want a gospel that doesn't offend anyone . The Bible states you shall not murder.

(Exodus 20:13) "You shall not murder. (NKJV)

And it includes yourself , those who commit suicide , are murdering themselves and are not repenting because of that sin.

But what about a person who has a terrible disease and are suffering? Is it a sin to put that person to death to end their misery? And my answer is yes . It is a sin to put that person to death. What should be done for that person ? They should be given enough medication to easy the pain till they pass away.

Proverbs 31:6 Give strong drink to him who is perishing, And wine to those who are bitter of heart.

But not commit suicide .

Prophesys relating to Judas are found in :

(Psalms 41:9) Even my own familiar friend in whom I trusted, Who ate my bread, Has lifted up his heel against me. (NKJV)

(Psalms 109:1-16) <<To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David.>> Do not keep silent, O God of my praise! For the mouth of the wicked and the mouth of the deceitful Have opened against me; They have spoken against me with a lying tongue. They have also surrounded me with words of hatred, And fought against me without a cause. In return for my love they are my accusers, But I give myself to prayer. Thus they have rewarded me evil for good, And hatred for my love. Set a wicked man over him, And let an accuser stand at his right hand. When he is judged, let him be found guilty, And let his prayer become sin. Let his days be few, And let another take his office. Let his children be fatherless, And his wife a widow. Let his children continually be vagabonds, and beg; Let them seek their bread also from their desolate places. Let the creditor seize all that he has, And let strangers plunder his labor. Let there be none to extend mercy to him, Nor let there be any to favor his fatherless children. Let his posterity be cut off, And in the generation following let their name be blotted out. Let the iniquity of his fathers be remembered before the LORD, And let not the sin of his mother be blotted out. Let them be continually before the LORD, That He may cut off the memory of them from the earth; Because he did not remember to show mercy,

But persecuted the poor and needy man, That he might even slay the broken in heart. (NKJV)

(Zechariah 11:12-13) Then I said to them, "If it is agreeable to you, give me my wages; and if not, refrain." So they weighed out for my wages thirty pieces of silver. And the LORD said to me, "Throw it to the potter" -that princely price they set on me. So I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw them into the house of the LORD for the potter. (NKJV)

Chapter 09.....Matthias

Now let's talk about Matthias who was chosen by lots to take the place of Judas . This is the only place where the Apostles had to use lots to make a decision after this we see they didn't use lots again but was led by the Holy Spirit .

(Acts 1:12-26) Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey. And when they had entered, they went up into the upper room where they were staying: Peter, James, John, and Andrew; Philip and Thomas; Bartholomew and Matthew; James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot; and Judas the son of James. These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers. And in those days Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples (altogether the number of names was about a hundred and twenty), and said, "Men and brethren, this Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke before by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus; "for he was numbered with us and obtained a part in this ministry." (Now this man purchased a field with the wages of iniquity; and falling headlong, he burst open in the middle and all his entrails gushed out. And it became known to all those dwelling in Jerusalem; so that field is called in their own language, Akel Dama, that is, Field of Blood.) "For it is written in the book of Psalms: 'Let his dwelling place be desolate, And let no one live in it'; and, 'Let another take his office.' "Therefore, of these men who have accompanied us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, "beginning from the baptism of John to that day when He was taken up from us, one of these must become a witness with us of His resurrection." And they proposed two: Joseph called Barsabas, who was surnamed Justus, and Matthias. And they prayed and said, "You, O Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which of these two You have chosen "to take part in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place." And they cast their lots, and the lot fell on Matthias. And he was numbered with the eleven apostles. (NKJV)

It is believed him to be one of the seventy that Jesus sent out in Luke

Luke 10:1 ¶ After these things the Lord appointed seventy others also, and sent them two by two before His face into every city and place where He Himself was about to go.

Luke 10:17 ¶ Then the seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name." (NKJV)

THE CHURCH HISTORY OF EUSEBIUS Book 2 Chapter 1 { " First, then, in the place of Judas, the betrayer,

Matthias, who, as has been shown was also one of the Seventy, was chosen to the apostolate. "}

We don't read anything more but what was said about the Apostles in Acts 2,6 and 11 which they received the Holy Spirit, they preached the word, and they stood in Jerusalem for a time. According to tradition we find about Matthias preached the word in Judea and Colchis where he was crucified for his faith.

Hippolytus in A Discourse by the Most Blessed Hippolytus, Bishop and Martyr, on the End of the World, and on Antichrist, and on the Second Coming of Our Lord Jesus Christ states {" And Matthias, who was one of the seventy, was numbered along with the eleven apostles, and preached in Jerusalem, and fell asleep and was buried there. }

Martyr's Mirror {"MATTHIAS, THE HOLY APOSTLE OF CHRIST, TIED ON A CROSS UPON A ROCK, STONED, AND THEN BEHEADED, A, D. 70

Matthias, according to the opinion of some, was of the royal house of David; and from his youth was well instructed in the law of God, at Bethlehem. He was one of the seventy disciples of Christ; but shortly after the Lord's ascension, Judas Iscariot, having faithlessly departed from his apostleship, and taken his own life, the remaining eleven apostles, and one hundred and twenty men, through prayer to God, and by the lot, unanimously elected him in place of the aforementioned faithless Judas, an apostle and ambassador of Jesus Christ, to preach the Gospel, according to the command of the Lord, to all nations, and to baptize the believers. Acts 1:23-26.

Afterwards he and the other eleven apostles were scourged by the Jewish council, for the name of Jesus Christ, and commanded that they should preach no more in the name of Jesus Christ. Acts 5:38-40. But they departed from the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name. And daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ.

After the separation of the apostles, who went everywhere to preach, Matthias, according to the opinion of Jerome, penetrated far into Ethiopia, where no other apostle had been, into the very in

terior of the land, yea, to the uttermost ends, to the inlet of the creek or river Asphar and Hyssus; where the most ignorant and barbarous people were. Unto these people, sitting as they were, in the deepest darkness and ignorance, there arose, through the ministry of this apostle, the true light of the Gospel. But, after having there gained many souls to Christ, he returned, according to history, to Judea, Galilee, and Samaria. namely, as in consequence of the dispersion of the apostles, the Jews who dwelt in those parts, could not enjoy the benefits of the ministry of the holy Gospel, unto their conversion. Hieron. in Catad. Script. Eccl. Isidor. Nauclet. Sabell. and Anthon., in Hist. Matthiae.

Concerning the end or martyrdom of Matthias, some write that he would not sacrifice to the false god Jupiter, and was therefore put to death by the heathen. Others, however, state that for the blasphemy which the Jews said he had committed against God, Moses, and the law, he was sentenced by their high priest, first to be hung on a cross and stoned, and afterwards beheaded with an ax. In short, when he would not deny Jesus, his Saviour, but steadfastly confessed Him, his sentence was his: ',Thy blood be upon thy head, for thine own mouth hath spoken against thee." Thereupon, having been tied on a cross,

as some write, or conducted upon a rock, as others say, he was stoned, and finally, according to the sentence, beheaded. Joh. Gys., in Hist. Mart., fol. 13, cot. 2, ex Anton., in part 1. Also, Konst-tooneel, etc., in the life of Matthias. Also, P. J Twisck in the Byb.elsch Ncpynbcpcck, letter M. on the nanie Matthias, fol. 652, cot. 1, 2."}

Foxe's Book of Martyrs {"Matthias Of whom less is known than of most of the other disciples, was elected to fill the vacant place of Judas. He was stoned at Jerusalem and then beheaded. "}

The Trail Of Blood by J. M. Carroll {" Matthias stoned to death"}